

## **County News**

### **\*\*\*Fair Survey Results and Update\*\*\***

Thank you to all who completed the on-line Armada Fair Survey. Your input was shared at our last 4-H Council meeting on January 14. One of the questions on the survey was the **4-H Theme** for the 2010 Armada Fair. The winning theme was submitted by Clever Clovers and is "Take the path that 4-H paves for you".

New this year, the fair will open on Monday, August 16 at 3:00 pm. The Fair Board made this decision to help increase revenues so the fair can still try to pay out premiums since their state premium funding was lost. Other cost saving items the Fair Board is reviewing is printing out a limited number of 4-H Fair Books per club and encouraging people to go on line once it is out as well as have leaders or designated club representatives pick up all premium checks for their group.

Based on the survey results the Craft judging will remain on the Sunday before Fair August 15. However, due to the Exhibit building set up and bringing in animals, the 4-H Council Fair Subcommittee decided to make the **craft judging time** earlier and is set to **start at 10:00 am and end at 2:00 pm.**

Petting Farm Coordinator, Cheryl Donovan, is looking for a few assistants to help her during Fair Week. This is a huge job and is 4-H's main fundraiser. Please call Cheryl Donovan for more information @ 586-784-8812.

### **\*\*\*County Awards Banquet\*\*\***

Mark your calendars! The county Awards Banquet will be held on Thursday, January 28 at 6:00 pm at the Macomb Intermediate School District on Garfield Road. The cost this year is \$9 per person. Any youth who submitted an application may attend the event for FREE but all must **RSVP by January 18.** The price will increase to \$12 at the door for those who did not RSVP by the deadline.

### **\*\*\* Sock Puppet Marathon Community Service \*\*\***

School Section 4-H Club makes sock puppets for a missionary to take to Haiti. The puppets are handed out when the missionary gives them medical attention. We will be hosting a county wide community service to reach our goal of 1,000 sock puppets! All 4-H clubs are welcome and anyone else who needs community service hours.

**When:** Saturday, January 30th, 2010

**Location:** Armada United Methodist Church - 23200 E. Main Street Armada, MI 48005.

Event will be in the basement of the church.

**Time:** 9am- 5pm

**Who:** Hosted by School Section 4-H Club and Macomb County Extension

**What:** Bring any scrap materials (yarn, felt, buttons, ribbon, etc.) and a hot glue gun. Please do not buy any items to participate in this community service.

**Why:** We are making these sock puppets to be taken down to Haiti to be given to children when they receive their vaccinations by a medical team

Donuts, Juice, and Coffee will be provided in the morning and lunch in the afternoon. You must stay at least 2 hours to be provided breakfast of lunch.

**RSVP is a must** to have a count for food. RSVP by January 28 to Alissa Gianferrara at [schoolsection4h@att.net](mailto:schoolsection4h@att.net).

**\*\*\*Horse Program Committee Meeting\*\*\***

The next Horse Program Committee is January 25th at Camp Rotary at 7:00pm. The mini/draft sub-committee will be meeting at 6:00pm, prior to the whole committee. Please make sure that each club is represented at these meetings.

**\*\*\*Livestock Program and Sale Committee Meetings\*\*\***

The next Livestock Program and Sale Committee Meetings will be on Monday, January 25, 2010 at Armada High School. The Program Committee will meet at 6:00 to discuss the next Livestock Jeopardy event scheduled for March 6. The Livestock Sale committee meets at 7:00 pm to begin planning for this year's 4-H Auction. All youth and adults involved in Livestock projects are welcome to attend

**\*\*\*New Volunteer Orientations\*\*\***

All adults who are interested in becoming a screened 4-H volunteer, must attend a new volunteer orientation. Orientations are held at the VerKuilen Building -21885 Dunham, Clinton Township 48036 and have been scheduled for the following dates and times:

Wednesday, January 20, 6-9 pm

Tuesday, February 9, 6-9 pm

Please RVSP by calling Vickie at 586-469-6431.

**\*\*\* Training Survey Results\*\*\***

Thank you to all clubs that returned our training interest survey in September. The curriculum you requested has arrived and will be in your hands soon. Due to budget and staffing cuts in 2010 the 4-H Office's ability to offer training is limited. However, funding is available to any club or group that wants to organize a countywide training in one of the topics listed below (ones that got the most positive results in the survey). From highest interest, the top 11 topics were: (1) Photography; (2) Vet Science; (3 tie) Woodworking; Art for K-8, Teamwork; (6 tie) Dogs; Visual Arts for 7-12gr; (8 tie) Sewing, Goal Setting; (10 tie) Foods; and Leadership. Contact Anne at the 4-H office for more information.

**\*\*\*Steer Tagging\*\*\***

Steer tagging takes place at the Armada Fairgrounds on the first Sunday in February (7<sup>th</sup>), from noon to 2:00pm. All steers must be tagged at this time in order to be exhibited in the 2010 Armada Fair. All male market livestock must be castrated prior to tagging-no exceptions.

**\*\*\*Southeast Region Leadership Academy\*\*\***

Save the date for a full day workshop on Saturday, March 6 at Mott Community College where you will gain the skills you need to lead an active, successful and motivated group. For a cost of only \$10, you will learn elements of running a great meeting, decision making tools, and how to productively communicate and deal with conflict. [Click here for the flyer](#) and click [here for the registration form](#).

## **State News**

### **\*\*\*State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Show\*\*\***

This year's show will be held on January 30, 2010 at the MSU Pavilion and is open to all Michigan 4-H members 9-19 as of January 1, 2010. A non-competitive cloversprout division for 5-8 years of age is also available. On site registration begins at 6:30 am at it will be \$2.75 per class. Other events that will take place at the show include Breed ID, Educational Posters and Displays, Ask the Vet student booth, and Supply Vendors. For more information visit the website at: <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/aniscipr.html#rabbits>

### **\*\*\*Mark of Excellence Award\*\*\***

4-H members between the ages of 11 – 12 years of age are encouraged to participate in this 4-H essay contest. Interested 4-H'ers will write an essay (500 words or less) focusing on the theme “**Because of 4-H, I Can...**”. Each county may select up to two representatives to be recognized during the State Awards Celebration at MSU in June during 4-H Exploration Days. Essays will be due to the county office March 1st. For more information, go to the following website: <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/staward.html> or contact Macomb 4-H office at 586-469-6431.

### **4-Her's Encouraged to Apply for State Awards**

The Michigan State 4-H Awards Program is an opportunity for 4-H'ers members 13-19 years of age as of January 1, 2010, with three or more years of experience in 4-H, to meet new friends, gain leadership skills, increase their interviewing skills, improve their writing skills, build their self-esteem and compete for recognition in more than 30 different project areas. Applications will be due to the county office on March 1<sup>st</sup>. For more information, go to the following website: <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/staward.html> or contact Macomb 4-H office at 586-469-6431

### **\*\*\*Take Me Fishing Family Fun Day\*\*\***

Saturday, January 30, 2010, Kettunen Center, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Learn all about the lake environment through the ice! We'll be fishing with local experts, identifying local fishers, performing water tests, and examining the quality of plant and animal life of Center Lake in the winter. Other sessions will include fly tying with a professional river fishing guide, a presentation on salmon fishing, casting instruction, snow science and creating fish prints on a t-shirt you bring or a tote bag you can purchase here for \$3.00. All instruction, equipment, bait and a hot buffet lunch are included in the \$6.50 cost per person. **Pre registration is required by January 26, 2010.** Call the Kettunen Center at 231-829-3421 or email [kross@kettunencenter.org](mailto:kross@kettunencenter.org)

**\*\*\*Winter Family Days\*\*\***

Saturday, February 13, 2010, Kettunen Center 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Try cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, ice fishing and sledding: and learn about winter survival. Cost is \$6.50 per person, which includes instruction, equipment and a hot buffet lunch.

**Pre registration is required by February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2010.** Call the Kettunen Center at 231-829-3421 or email [kross@kettunencenter.org](mailto:kross@kettunencenter.org)

**\*\*\*Southeast Regional 4-H Horse Quiz Bowl\*\*\***

**Registration deadline is January 29, 2010**, due to the Sanilac County MSUE Office. Any questions please contact Shelly @ 810-648-2515 or (cell) 810-837-0119 or email [warczins@msu.edu](mailto:warczins@msu.edu) Event takes place Saturday, February 20, 2010. Reference material for the Horse Bowl: <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/horsekids/>

**\*\*\*4-H Beef, Sheep & Swine Teen & Adult Volunteer Workshop\*\*\***

February 27-28, 2010 - Kettunen Center

If you're interested in 4-H beef cattle, sheep or swine projects, this workshop is for you. You'll learn about animal health, management, care and nutrition. In addition, you can sharpen your livestock judging and evaluation skills. By sharing ideas and interacting with others, you'll find ways to improve your county 4-H livestock program. The workshop also offers ways to enhance your communication and teaching skills, and learn about the many opportunities available for those interested in beef, sheep or swine projects. Open to adult and teen volunteers aged 13 and up.

**\*\*\* 4-H Veterinary Science Workshop \*\*\***

February 26-27, 2010 – Kettunen Center

Explore animal systems and learn about animal health for a broad array of animal species by sharing information and experiences, asking questions and quizzing veterinarians about their skills. You can also participate in hands-on demonstrations that teach you how to help members recognize healthy, sick or injured animals. Meet 4-Hers who has developed outstanding veterinary science projects and gain ideas to help others start their own vet science projects. Open to adult and teen volunteers aged 13 and older. Cost is \$45.50. Reservations are due to the county MSU Extension office by February 12, 2010. Call 586-469-6431 or e-mail [Macomb.4h@macombcountymi.gov](mailto:Macomb.4h@macombcountymi.gov) for more information.

**\*\*\* Save the Date: Exploration Days\*\*\***

4-H Exploration Days will be held June 23 to 25, 2010. 4-H Exploration Days is an annual MSU pre-college program that attracts approximately 2,500 youth participants and chaperones who represent all 83 Michigan counties. Nearly 200 fun, action-filled classroom and field trip sessions are offered annually. The sessions take place throughout the [Michigan State University campus](#) and at various off-campus locations. Participants attend one or two sessions throughout their three-day stay. They are housed in three Michigan State University residence halls. To attend the event you must be at least aged 11 by January 1, 2010. Full registration for the full three days is \$165 which includes all meals, lodging, sessions, and a t-shirt. Partial scholarships are available through MSU Extension and our Macomb County 4-H Council. Registration booklets should be out in February.

**\*\*\* 4-H Environmental & Outdoor Education Workshop and 4-H Plant Science & Entomology Workshop \*\*\***

March 19-21, 2010

Kettunen Center, Tustin, MI

Two workshops in one! These workshops are running on the same schedule. Participants from each one will be able to sign up for sessions offered by the other workshop, but must select one as your "main workshop" when registering. Pick from a variety of topics offered in six different break-out session time blocks. Gain fun, hands-on ideas, projects and activities for use in your club or county programming. Update your knowledge and skills, share ideas with others from around the state, and help kids enjoy and appreciate the outdoors. Bring an item to donate or extra spending money for bidding to help support the auction for your workshop. Adults and youth ages 13 or older may attend. The cost is \$70 per person (4-H). Register through the county MSU Extension office by 5 p.m. on March 5, 2010. Call 586-469-6431 for more information. Click here for the workshop packets: [4-H Environmental & Outdoor Education](#); [4-H Plant Science & Entomology](#). Macomb County 4-H Council partial scholarships are available for 50% of the cost. Check out the Macomb County website [http://www.macombcountymi.gov/msuextension/4h\\_scholarship.html](http://www.macombcountymi.gov/msuextension/4h_scholarship.html) for Council scholarship form.

### **\*\*\*MSU Hairy Horse Show\*\*\***

Sunday, March 28, 2010 @ MSU Pavillion.

Have you ever wondered why you place the way you did at a horse show? Get more feedback from the show judge's. \* No ribbons or points: the feedback is your reward!

A complete list of classer are at <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/horsekids/> Details at [tenlenta@msu.edu](mailto:tenlenta@msu.edu) or call 517-353-1748.

### **\*\*\*4-H Capitol Experience – March 21-24, 2010\*\*\***

4-H Capitol Experience is a 4-day conference in Lansing involving more than 100 teens from around the state experience state government in action. Participants are assigned to a "committee" (Agriculture, Environment, Education, etc. visit state agencies, committee meetings and sessions of the legislature and participate in their own "mock legislature".

Applications and promotional information are on line at

<http://web1.msue.msu.edu/4h/capexp.html>. Registration cost includes all meals, lodging and material fees. Rate: \$275 Adults and current 4-H members; \$285 Non 4-H members.

Remember that the 4-H Council offers scholarships that cover up to 50%. Applications (and scholarship applications) are due in the county office by February 5. A letter for school officials using Michigan Benchmarks to explain this conference as an important learning experience justifying an excused absence from school is available. For more information contact Anne at the 4-H Office.

### **\*\*\* Bi-State Poultry Clinic \*\*\***

The Bi-State Poultry Clinic will be held at MSU from 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. on February 2010. This is an exciting chance to discuss your poultry projects with experts and 4-H youth members from across Ohio and Michigan. 4-H youth of all ages, volunteers and parents are welcome. Sessions may include incubation & hatching, poultry housing/equipment, animal welfare & behavior, and pigeons. There will be a keynote speaker during lunch. The cost is \$15 per person and includes lunch and handouts. Registration and media/medical forms are due to the county MSU Extension office by February 5, 2010. For more information, go online to [web1.msue.msu.edu/4h/aniscipr.html](http://web1.msue.msu.edu/4h/aniscipr.html) or contact the Macomb County MSU Extension office at 586-469-6431.

## **OTHER NEWS**

### **\*\*\* Internships Available \*\*\***

A new partnership between the Cooperative Extension System and the Department of Defense has provided the funding for a national, military childcare/youth development internship program. Through this initiative, students and recent graduates will have the opportunity to develop professional skills in childcare and youth development through practical work experience with military children, youth, and families. Interns' compensation will include travel to and from the internship site and housing for the duration of the placement. Interns will be placed on military installations across the United States with some opportunities for international placement.

The Military Extension Internship Program is accepting applications through January 29th for internships beginning June 6th and lasting through the summer. More information and application materials can be found at <http://www.extension.purdue.edu/military> . Application materials for Fall 2010 internships will be available later this spring.

